© Crown copyright • www.metoffice.gov.uk

More rain for north-west Britain

23 November 2009

The Met Office and the Environment Agency are warning that heavy rain over the next few days could exacerbate problems following last week's record rainfall.

The heaviest of the rain will again fall over Cumbria, Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders during Tuesday. An additional 50 to 75 mm of rain is expected over parts of these regions by Wednesday morning, and up to 100 mm over the Cumbrian Fells.

The rain will be accompanied by west to south-westerly gales with gusts to 65 m.p.h. possible at times.

Paul Davies, Chief Hydrometeorologist for the Met Office and the Environment Agency, says: "There will be persistent heavy rainfall in Cumbria on Tuesday. However, we are not expecting the same volumes of rainfall as last week and do not expect there to be the same widespread property flooding. We are concerned about the ongoing risk to infrastructure, particularly bridges, and the possible risk to life in the area as the river flows increase.

"We will continue to monitor the situation closely over the next 24 hours and will issue flood warnings if we expect the risk of further property flooding."

Surface water flooding problems may develop as the continuing strong winds dislodge leaves and branches, possibly blocking local drainage systems, which could become overwhelmed. Where flooding has occurred in Cumbria, drains may still be blocked with silt which could further increase the risk of surface water flooding issues in this area.

Elsewhere in the country, river levels on the River Severn are being closely monitored and the Environment Agency has deployed temporary defences to protect properties in Shrewsbury and Bewdley.

UK forecast weather

UK severe weather warnings

What to do in severe weather

SEPA Floodline (Scotland)

Environment Agency Floodline (England and Wales)

Note to Editors: